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I hereby certify that this paper and every paper referred to therein as being enclosed is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below

Date: March 7, 2005

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Attorney Docket No. 100717-587

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT

: HEINZ-GUNTER WEISSENBERG et al.

SERIAL NO.

: 10/602,282

CUSTOMER NO. :

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FILED

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ART UNIT

: 1724

EXAMINER

: THOMAS M. LITHGOW

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS LETTER

Sir:

The records of the undersigned indicate that the above identified application should have been taken up for action by the Patent Office. No action, however, has as yet been received, so that the Patent Office's advice as to the status of the application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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